

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2011**

**FIFTH ORGANIZATIONAL DAY**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m., and was called to order by Mr. Speaker Ramsey.

**PRAYER**

The proceedings were opened with prayer by Madam Speaker Pro Tempore Woodson.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Madam Speaker Pro Tempore Woodson led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call was taken with the following results:

Present . . . . . 33

Senators present were: Barnes, Beavers, Bell, Berke, Burks, Campfield, Crowe, Faulk, Finney, Ford, Gresham, Haile, Harper, Haynes, Henry, Herron, Johnson, Kelsey, Ketron, Kyle, Marrero, McNally, Norris, Overbey, Southerland, Stewart, Summerville, Tate, Tracy, Watson, Woodson, Yager and Mr. Speaker Ramsey--33.

**MOTION**

Senator Norris moved, pursuant to Rule 32 and Article II, Section 18 of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, **Senate Bills Nos. 46 through 86** be passed on first consideration, which motion prevailed.

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

The Speaker announced that the following bills were filed for introduction and passed first consideration:

**Senate Bill No. 46** by Senator Campfield.

Education -- As introduced, requires state board of education to modify uniform high school grading system to allow for the awarding of pluses and minuses on letter grades. Amends TCA Section 49-1-302; Section 49-6-407; Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9; Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 1; Title 49, Chapter 8, Part 1 and Title 49, Chapter 9, Part 1.

**Senate Bill No. 47** by Senator Campfield.

Abortion -- As introduced, requires all physicians' offices that perform abortions to be licensed as ambulatory surgical treatment centers. Amends TCA Title 68, Chapter 11, Part 2.

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### **Senate Bill No. 48** by Senator Campfield.

Welfare -- As introduced, requires TANF recipients to be tested for illegal drugs; restricts eligibility for benefits for one year after testing positive for an illegal drug. Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 12; Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 18 and Title 71.

### **Senate Bill No. 49** by Senator Campfield.

Education, Curriculum -- As introduced, prohibits the teaching of or furnishing of materials on human sexuality other than heterosexuality in public school grades K-8. Amends TCA Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10.

### **Senate Bill No. 50** by Senator Campfield.

Newspapers and Publications -- As introduced, requires the delivery of unsolicited newspapers and tabloids be suspended or terminated upon request of the owner or occupant of the property upon which such newspapers or tabloids are left. Amends TCA Title 62.

### **Senate Bill No. 51** by Senator Campfield.

Firearms and Ammunition -- As introduced, authorizes full-time faculty and staff at public colleges and universities in Tennessee to carry handguns if not otherwise prohibited by law. Amends TCA Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13.

### **Senate Bill No. 52** by Senator Campfield.

Criminal Offenses -- As introduced, imposes criminal penalties upon persons who have hepatitis and who do not tell persons to whom it could be transmitted. Amends TCA Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 1.

### **Senate Bill No. 53** by Senator Campfield.

Firearms and Ammunition -- As introduced, authorizes eligible persons who own real property in Tennessee to obtain handgun carry permits. Amends TCA Section 39-17-1351.

### **Senate Bill No. 54** by Senator Campfield.

Traffic Safety -- As introduced, prohibits a traffic citation in Knox County for not coming to a complete stop before turning right on red at certain intersections that is based solely on evidence from a traffic surveillance camera. Amends TCA Section 55-8-198.

### **Senate Bill No. 55** by Senator Campfield.

Annexation -- As introduced, requires municipality to notify affected property owners by mail of proposed extension of corporate limits under certain circumstances. Amends TCA Title 6, Chapter 51 and Title 6, Chapter 58, Part 1.

### **Senate Bill No. 56** by Senator Beavers.

Alcohol Offenses, Motor Vehicles -- As introduced, prohibits both the driver and passenger of a motor vehicle from consuming an alcoholic beverage or possessing an open alcoholic beverage container within the passenger area. Amends TCA Title 55, Chapter 10, Part 4.

### **Senate Bill No. 57** by Senator Beavers.

Highway Signs -- As introduced, designates segment of State Route 135 in Clay County as "Jerry Lee Denton Memorial Highway".

### **Senate Bill No. 58** by Senator Kelsey.

Special License Plates -- As introduced, extends time period for additional year for Memphis Rock 'n' Soul new specialty earmarked plates to meet initial issuance requirements. Amends TCA Title 55, Chapter 4.

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### **Senate Bill No. 59** by Senator Kelsey.

Banks and Financial Institutions -- As introduced, includes lineal descendants of original owners of private trust companies among those who may control a private trust. Amends TCA Section 45-2-2001.

### **Senate Bill No. 60** by Senator Barnes.

Highway Signs -- As introduced, designates segment of State Route 48 in Montgomery County as "Joel Plummer Memorial Highway".

### **Senate Bill No. 61** by Senator Gresham.

Education -- As introduced, removes annual reporting requirement of the State Board of Education on the weight of textbooks. Amends TCA Title 49.

### **Senate Bill No. 62** by Senator Gresham.

Capitol -- As introduced, clarifies that the duties of the Capitol Commission include establishing a policy relative to historical commemorative statues and monuments on the capitol grounds as well as on the Bicentennial Mall. Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 8.

### **Senate Bill No. 63** by Senator Watson.

Special License Plates -- As introduced, extends time period for meeting initial issuance requirements for T.C. Thompson Children's Hospital new specialty earmarked license plates until July 1, 2012. Amends TCA Title 55, Chapter 4.

### **Senate Bill No. 64** by Senator Overbey.

Criminal Offenses -- As introduced, enhances penalties for patronizing prostitution and promoting prostitution in certain instances, provides immunity for minors arrested for prostitution, and establishes tow and impound procedures for vehicles used in prostitution offenses. Amends TCA Title 37; Title 39 and Title 40.

### **Senate Bill No. 65** by Senator Overbey.

Public Health -- As introduced, requires addition of a screen for critical cyanotic congenital heart disease to the screen panel for newborns. Amends TCA Title 68.

### **Senate Bill No. 66** by Senator Overbey.

Special License Plates -- As introduced, authorizes issuance of new specialty earmarked plate for adoption; allocates revenue from such plates to the Adoption Foundation of Tennessee, Inc., and to Harmony Adoptions of Tennessee, Inc. Amends TCA Title 55, Chapter 4.

### **Senate Bill No. 67** by Senator Overbey.

Firefighters -- As introduced, provides for certain reemployment rights for volunteer firefighters injured in the line of duty. Amends TCA Title 50.

### **Senate Bill No. 68** by Senator Overbey.

Emergency Communications Districts -- As introduced, authorizes the provision of emergency medical services by providers in contiguous counties in certain circumstances. Amends TCA Title 5; Title 12, Chapter 9; Title 58, Chapter 8 and Title 68, Chapter 140.

### **Senate Bill No. 69** by Senator Overbey.

Sexual Offenses -- As introduced, provides that offense of soliciting the sexual exploitation of a minor can be prosecuted in this state against person located outside the state if the person solicited a law enforcement officer posing as a minor located within this state. Amends TCA Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 5.

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### **Senate Bill No. 70** by Senator Overbey.

Animal Cruelty and Abuse -- As introduced, makes several permissive penalty provisions mandatory and increases the allowable range for fines for offenses against animals. Amends TCA Title 39, Chapter 14; Title 44 and Title 70.

### **Senate Bill No. 71** by Senator Overbey.

Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation -- As introduced, allows licensed drug and alcohol abuse counselors to assist clients with applications for state and federal benefits. Amends TCA Title 33; Title 68, Chapter 11 and Title 68, Chapter 24.

### **Senate Bill No. 72** by Senator Overbey.

Public Health -- As introduced, requires the governor to designate one day each year as Autism Awareness Recognition Day. Amends TCA Title 4.

### **Senate Bill No. 73** by Senator Overbey.

Mental Health, Dept. of -- As introduced, requires the chief officer of a hospital or other residential service facility to provide notice of admission to a recipient's attorney-in-fact acting under a durable power of attorney for health care; prohibits a treatment review committee from overriding a decision made by the attorney-in-fact. Amends TCA Title 33.

### **Senate Bill No. 74** by Senator Overbey.

Motor Vehicles -- As introduced, prohibits passengers under the age of five on motorcycles. Amends TCA Section 55-8-164 and Section 55-9-303.

### **Senate Bill No. 75** by Senator Overbey.

Safety -- As introduced, adds go karts, climbing walls, and inflatable devices to amusement devices subject to inspection and review by the elevator and amusement device safety board. Amends TCA Title 68, Chapter 121, Part 1.

### **Senate Bill No. 76** by Senator Overbey.

Notary Public -- As introduced, enacts the Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts. Amends TCA Title 8.

### **Senate Bill No. 77** by Senator Overbey.

Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation -- As introduced, changes the number and qualifications of students, the selection process, and term length for appointment to the board of the Tennessee student assistance corporation. Amends TCA Section 49-4-202.

### **Senate Bill No. 78** by Senator Burks.

County Officers -- As introduced, redesignates "county mayor" as "county executive" in Overton County. Amends TCA Section 5-6-101.

### **Senate Bill No. 79** by Senator Beavers.

Insurance, Health, Accident -- As introduced, enacts the "Tennessee Health Care Freedom Act". Amends TCA Title 56.

### **Senate Bill No. 80** by Senator Tracy.

Transportation, Dept. of -- As introduced, removes outdated language from transportation equity trust fund provisions. Amends TCA Title 7, Chapter 56, Part 2; Title 9, Chapter 4 and Title 67.

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### **Senate Bill No. 81** by Senator Faulk.

State Employees -- As introduced, reinstates certain pay and retirement benefits for commissioned officers transferred from Department of Safety to Department of Revenue. Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 7, Part 2 and Title 8, Chapter 36, Part 2.

### **Senate Bill No. 82** by Senator Faulk.

Judges and Chancellors -- As introduced, allows the governor to fill a vacancy in the office of an appellate court by appointing any person who is duly licensed to practice in this state and who is fully qualified under the law of this state if the governor is not satisfied with the list of nominees submitted by the judicial selection commission or the commission does not furnish a list of nominees within 60 days after receiving written notice from the governor that a vacancy has occurred; and provides that if the governor appoints a judge who is not from the list of nominees submitted by the commission, the judge appointed shall run in a contested election. Amends TCA Title 2; Title 4; Title 16 and Title 17.

### **Senate Bill No. 83** by Senator Faulk.

Children -- As introduced, deletes the age limitation in statute permitting mothers to publicly breastfeed only their children who are age 12 months or younger. Amends TCA Section 39-13-511 and Title 68, Chapter 58.

### **Senate Bill No. 84** by Senator Campfield.

Child Custody and Support -- As introduced, establishes the office of noncustodial parent advocacy. Amends TCA Title 36 and Title 37.

### **Senate Bill No. 85** by Senator Campfield.

Criminal Offenses -- As introduced, increases the penalty for knowingly making a false report of child abuse or child sexual abuse from a Class E felony to a Class D felony if at the time the report is made the defendant is a party in a custody or visitation determination, the custody or visitation determination involves the person against whom the report is made, and the report is made for the purpose of delay or to gain advantage in the custody or visitation determination. Amends TCA Title 36, Chapter 6; Title 37, Chapter 1 and Title 39, Chapter 15.

### **Senate Bill No. 86** by Senator Campfield.

Child Custody and Support -- As introduced, requires a parent desiring to relocate more than 100 miles from the other parent or outside the state to send notice of the move to the other parent no later than 90 days, rather than 60 days, before the move. Amends TCA Title 36, Chapter 6, Part 1.

## **MOTION**

Senator Norris moved, pursuant to Rule 33 and Article II, Section 18 of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee that **Senate Bills Nos. 31 through 45** be passed on second consideration and be referred to the appropriate committees or held on the Clerk's desk, which motion prevailed.

## **SENATE BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION**

The Speaker announced that the following bills passed second consideration and were referred to the appropriate committees or held on the Clerk's desk:

**Senate Bill No. 31** referred to the Committee on Transportation.

**Senate Bill No. 32** referred to the Committee on Transportation.

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**Senate Bill No. 33** referred to the Committee on Finance, Ways and Means.

**Senate Bill No. 34** referred to the Committee on State and Local Government.

**Senate Bill No. 35** referred to the Committee on Transportation.

**Senate Bill No. 36** referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 37** referred to the Committee on Transportation.

**Senate Bill No. 38** referred to the Committee on Transportation.

**Senate Bill No. 39** referred to the Committee on Transportation.

**Senate Bill No. 40** referred to the Committee on Commerce, Labor and Agriculture.

**Senate Bill No. 41** referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 42** referred to the Committee on State and Local Government.

**Senate Bill No. 43** referred to the Committee on State and Local Government.

**Senate Bill No. 44** referred to the Committee on Environment, Conservation and Tourism.

**Senate Bill No. 45** referred to the Committee on Finance, Ways and Means.

### **MOTION**

Senator Norris moved, pursuant to Rule 21, **Senate Joint Resolutions Nos. 21 through 24** be passed on first consideration and lie over, which motion prevailed.

### **INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

The Speaker announced that the following resolutions were filed for introduction. Pursuant to Rule 21, the resolutions lie over.

**Senate Joint Resolution No. 21** by Senator Beavers.

Constitutional Amendments -- As introduced, proposes an amendment to Article VII of the Tennessee Constitution in order to move the election of county officers from August to November.

**Senate Joint Resolution No. 22** by Senator Southerland.

Memorials, Sports -- Greeneville High School football team, TSSAA Class 4A State Champions.

**Senate Joint Resolution No. 23** by Senator Beavers.

Attorney General and Reporter -- Proposes a constitutional amendment to provide for the popular election of the attorney general and reporter for the state.

**Senate Joint Resolution No. 24** by Senator Faulk.

Memorials, Sports -- Team Cherokee of the Scholastic Clay Target Program of Kingsport.

**MOTION**

Senator Norris moved, pursuant to Rule 21, **House Joint Resolutions Nos. 8, 9 and 11 through 13**; and **Senate Joint Resolutions Nos. 18 through 20** lie over and be referred to the appropriate committees or held on the Clerk's desk, which motion prevailed.

**RESOLUTIONS LYING OVER**

The Speaker announced that the following resolutions passed second consideration and were referred to the appropriate committees or held on the desk, pursuant to Rule 21:

**House Joint Resolution No. 8** -- Memorials, Sports -- Maryville High School football team, Class 6A State Championship.

The Speaker announced that he had referred House Joint Resolution No. 8 to the Committee on Calendar.

**House Joint Resolution No. 9** -- Memorials, Sports -- Kendall Martindale, 2010 TSSAA Class AAA Girls Golf State Champion.

The Speaker announced that he had referred House Joint Resolution No. 9 to the Committee on Calendar.

**House Joint Resolution No. 11** -- Memorials, Personal Achievement -- Soddy Daisy High School JROTC, first in Junior Leadership Symposium.

The Speaker announced that he had referred House Joint Resolution No. 11 to the Committee on Calendar.

**House Joint Resolution No. 12** -- Memorials, Retirement -- Dr. Mary Barker.

The Speaker announced that he had referred House Joint Resolution No. 12 to the Committee on Calendar.

**House Joint Resolution No. 13** -- Memorials, Death -- Josephine Gaines Wade.

The Speaker announced that he had referred House Joint Resolution No. 13 to the Committee on Calendar.

**Senate Joint Resolution No. 18** -- Constitutional Amendments -- Proposes an amendment to clarify the constitutional language that currently prohibits the levying of a tax on any class of income, other than income derived from stocks and bonds, and to prohibit any tax levied on or measured by employer payrolls.

The Speaker announced that he had referred Senate Joint Resolution No. 18 to the Committee on Judiciary.

**Senate Joint Resolution No. 19** -- Memorials, Sports -- Volunteer High School marching band winning four first place trophies at the Outback Bowl 2011.

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The Speaker announced that he had referred Senate Joint Resolution No. 19 to the Committee on Calendar.

**Senate Joint Resolution No. 20** -- Attorney General and Reporter -- Proposes a constitutional amendment to provide for the popular election of the attorney general and reporter for the state.

The Speaker announced that he had referred Senate Joint Resolution No. 20 to the Committee on Judiciary.

### **MOTION**

Senator Tate moved that Rule 37 be suspended for the immediate consideration of **House Joint Resolution No. 13**, out of order, which motion prevailed.

### **RESOLUTION LYING OVER**

**House Joint Resolution No. 13** -- Memorials, Death -- Josephine Gaines Wade.

On motion of Senator Tate, the rules were suspended for the immediate consideration of the resolution.

On motion, **House Joint Resolution No. 13** was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was tabled.

### **RECESS**

Senator Norris moved the Senate recess and repair in a body to meet the House of Representatives in Joint Convention on War Memorial Plaza for the purpose of the inauguration of the Governor, and further moved that at the conclusion of the Joint Convention that the Senate reconvene immediately in the Senate Chamber, which motion prevailed.

### **IN JOINT CONVENTION INAUGURATION OF GOVERNOR**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. President Ramsey called the Joint Convention to order pursuant to **Senate Joint Resolution No. 17**.

### **ROLL CALL**

Mr. President Ramsey declared that a quorum was present.

Senator Norris moved that the roll call of the Senate be dispensed with, which motion prevailed.

Representative McCormick moved that the roll call of the House of Representatives be dispensed with, which motion prevailed.

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Mr. Russell Humphrey, Chief Clerk of the Senate, read **Senate Joint Resolution No. 17**, authorizing the Joint Convention for the inauguration of the Honorable William Edward Haslam as Governor of the State of Tennessee.

### **APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE**

Mr. President Ramsey announced the appointment of a committee of Senators Bell, Burks, Campfield, Haile, Harper and Summerville; and Representatives Lois DeBerry, McDaniel, Naifeh, Mike Turner, Roach and Kent Williams to escort the Honorable Phil Bredesen to the Speaker's platform. Representative Naifeh served as Chairperson of this committee.

Representative Naifeh presented the Honorable Phil Bredesen, Governor of Tennessee and First Lady Andrea Conte.

### **APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE**

Mr. President Ramsey announced the appointment of a committee of Senators Finney, Ketron, Kyle, Norris, Tracy and Madam Speaker Pro Tempore Woodson; and Representatives Armstrong, Fitzhugh, Harry Brooks, Matheny, McCormick and Tindell to escort the Honorable William Edward Haslam to the Speaker's platform. Senator Tracy served as Chairperson of this committee.

Senator Tracy presented the Honorable William Edward Haslam, Governor-Elect of Tennessee and Mrs. Crissy Haslam and family.

### **PRESENTATION OF COLORS**

The Presentation of Colors was given by the Tennessee National Guard.

### **INVOCATION**

The proceedings were opened with invocation by Rhabi Mark Schifftan, of Congregation Ohabai Sholom, of the Temple of Nashville.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Purple Heart recipient and Operation Enduring Freedom Veteran, Tennessee National Guard Staff Sargent Katie Hull McCluskey.

### **NATIONAL ANTHEM**

The National Anthem was sung by the Oak Ridge Boys.

### **READING**

Ms. Margaret Britton Vaughn read her poem "The USS Volunteer" commemorating the inauguration of William Edward Haslam as Governor of Tennessee.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Mr. President Ramsey introduced the Honorable Phil Bredesen, who delivered the following farewell address.

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**FAREWELL ADDRESS  
GOVERNOR PHIL BREDESEN  
NASHVILLE, JANUARY 15, 2011**

As I stand before you in the final minutes of my time as governor, Andrea and I more than anything else want simply to express our gratitude for the extraordinary opportunity to play a part for a while in the never-ending story of Tennessee.

Thank you all so very, very much.

Bill Haslam is a fine man. And Bill Haslam will be a fine governor. Crissy will be a very fine first lady. I've known the family for years. Bill and I have worked together, we've shared meals together. He has what it takes to do this job.

But there is no college major in governorship. It's on-the-job learning. And I ask your support and your prayers for him. He is about to become the governor of all of the people of Tennessee.

As my final act as governor, I ask all of the people of Tennessee – whatever your politics – to figure out how to help him, and not how to tear him down.

And Bill, some friendly parting advice: When you have one of those days when the waters seem awfully rough, do what I did: Look out the window for a minute at some of the statues on the grounds of the Capitol, and comfort yourself with the thought that there are very few statues of critics. They only build them of doers.

Andrea and I have marked our lives with a few milestones, and this moment is one of them. Our goal has always been to leave the things we've touched a little better for our passing, and time will be the judge where we have succeeded and where we have failed in this.

At this milestone, though, to each and every one of you from both of us, thank you.

May God preserve and protect our new governor and his family, the people of this great state, and the United States of America.

Godspeed and goodbye.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

The Honorable William Edward Haslam, accompanied by Mrs. Crissy Haslam and family, was introduced and was administered the Oath of Office by the Honorable Cornelia A. Clark, Chief Justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Thereupon, Mr. President Ramsey declared that the Honorable William Edward Haslam was duly, legally and constitutionally inaugurated as the Governor of Tennessee for the ensuing four years.

**GOVERNOR'S SALUTE**

The Tennessee National Guard gave the Governor's Salute to Governor Haslam.

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**INAUGURAL ADDRESS  
GOVERNOR WILLIAM EDWARD HASLAM**

Governor Ramsey. Speaker Harwell. Members of the General Assembly. Constitutional Officers. Justices of the Supreme Court. Distinguished Members of Tennessee's Congressional Delegation. Honored Guests. Family. Friends, and fellow Tennesseans.

Let me begin by thanking you for placing your confidence in me to serve as your Governor. With humility, I accept your trust to be a responsible steward of our state's resources.

As my friend Lamar Alexander says, being the Governor of your home State is a high honor, and if that state just happens to be Tennessee, well it doesn't get any better than that.

One Saturday night about eight months ago, Crissy and I were driving home from Henry County. It was close to midnight as we came through Nashville, which I knew meant we would be getting home to Knoxville about 3 a.m. As we drove down I-40, I saw the lights illuminating our state capitol.

With many months and miles behind us, and quite a few more to go, I thought, "that's a really beautiful building – but it sure does take a lot of work to get there."

I want to thank my wife, Crissy, who spent endless days with me traveling 120,000 miles across our state. She joined me in shaking hundreds of thousands of hands, eating a thousand chicken dinners, knocking on countless doors and probably most painful for her, listening to me give the same speech about 2,000 times. Somewhere along the way she later recounted, she had learned how to look at me adoringly without listening to a word I said.

To our children Annie, Leigh and Will and his wife, Hannah, thank you for your incredible support and encouragement along the way.

The road to public office traverses over paths that are long, challenging and often partisan. Our democratic system asks good men and women to stand for election as Republican, Democrat or Independent.

After the voters speak freely and openly through the ballot box, the time comes to set aside those things that separate us, and join our hands and our hearts together to aspire to greatness.

Now is the time to help Tennessee reach its potential.

Speaking of aspiring to greatness, Governor Bredesen, thank you for a job well done. And to your wife, Andrea Conte, as First Lady you set the tone to raising awareness of crime victimization and crime prevention. Thank you.

Governor Bredesen, you often used nautical analogies to describe your ship of state. You stood at the helm, in good times and through some that were more tumultuous, and never veered off course.

And as an aside, I truly hope our national leaders will use your insights into the health care system to bring about real reform.

Today, a new set of hands will grab hold of those oars and pull with the currents – sometimes against – toward a new horizon.

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For two years I criss-crossed Tennessee, from the mountains in the East to the banks of the Mississippi River in the West, sharing in the stories that stitch together the fabric of our state and our people. I also learned that Tennesseans have opinions – lots of opinions. But that is a good thing. And listening to those opinions, as varied as they may be, is what prepared me to lead.

From thousands of conversations along the campaign trail and experiencing first-hand the strong work ethic among Tennesseans, this is a state with people who are up to the challenges that we face.

There is a will to work... a desire to earn a good wage... and to support a family. But for some, in all honesty, the opportunities are scarce or difficult to attain. Too many of our fellow citizens remain unemployed and many more are under-employed.

The emerging landscape for jobs in our state breaks in two distinct ways.

There is the vibrant hum of a new economy, that is growing, that encourages learning, and that taps the educated. Others feel left behind, struggling to gain a foothold and wary of having the tools to compete.

In the new economy there is room for those who prepare for the challenges of a changing workforce. Some come equipped with the right education and skills while others reach out to re-train, re-educate and re-enter a competitive marketplace.

It is time to aspire to be more.

As Tennesseans we often aim too low when it comes to our education, our health and our economy. It is time to raise our sights.

A person under-employed as well as those unemployed seek to discover a future in front and not a fleeting image from a rear view mirror.

But please understand this point: Government stands ready to assist, but government is not the solution.

Offering hope through workforce development, technical training and work keys are building blocks on the road to job recovery and job security. But equally important is the individual determination and drive to invest the time and energy and hard work to be more.

There are those who are convinced there is no penalty for giving up and dropping out of school – a job will be readily available. But, for those who give little, there will be little in return.

We cannot accept 28,000 students dropping out every year without completing high school. As leaders, our job is to help define reality for all to see and to understand – educational achievement is the real key to the future.

The expectations and standards of education for EVERY STUDENT in Tennessee are high. This is the time to continue significant education reform – and shame on us if we let this moment escape without meaningful action. The path for better jobs now and into the future requires more than the current 1 out of 5 Tennesseans over the age of 25 who have a college degree.

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This is my commitment to you: We will improve our teaching, learning, retention and graduation. Every student deserves a great teacher, and every school needs a great principal. The tools will be in place – the rest is up to each of us to seize the opportunities.

Businesses deciding whether to locate or expand in Tennessee look for more than incentives. The single best recruiting tool for future job growth is a high quality in our work force that flows from our educational achievements. I recently attended new governor's school. I think I passed! There are twenty-six brand new Governors. All of us ran on a platform of bringing jobs to our state. The competition is intense. Not just with our fellow states in the U.S., but with countries from across the world.

We are honing an edge that will allow Tennessee to stand out in a highly competitive world where everyone is looking for the smallest advantage to succeed.

Reforms and investments in Tennessee's education system offer promises for tomorrow. But money and good intentions are not enough to bridge the gap. Commitments are required – from parents, teachers, students and elected officials. The standards for educational excellence have been raised and we need plenty of helping hands, not pointing fingers, in our climb to the Top.

It is time to reach for the top tier and not be satisfied with merely being better than last.

A quality workforce also embraces healthy choices and personal responsibility and accountability for a healthy lifestyle. We can't remain 44th out of the 50 states in the health of our citizens and attract the jobs that we want, nor obtain the quality of life we desire in Tennessee.

Our goal is simple: Top-tier education for our children. Re-training for those out of work and underemployed. A healthy lifestyle. All three will make Tennessee number one in the Southeast for high quality jobs.

Going forward, the governor's responsibilities will be different. Compared to 20 years ago, efficiency now is the operative word because resources are fewer. There is no other choice.

Thomas Freedman recently wrote that "we are leaving an era where to be a mayor, governor, senator, or president was on balance to give things away to people and we are entering an era where to be a leader will mean on balance to take things away from people. That is the only way we will get our fiscal house in order before the market brutally does it for us."

As we slowly reverse the negative trends of the economic downturn that gripped our state and nation, we will be diligent in watching the weight of state government, going on a diet of efficiency and effectiveness.

State government will live within its financial means, and a Top to Bottom review will set priorities and establish measurable goals.

We face few easy alternatives in closing the budget gap and balancing the budget – difficult choices face us. We will make the right decisions that point us toward the future – while doing so with a measure of compassion.

Today, as we begin writing a new chapter in our state's history, I ask you, the elected state senators and representatives, to join with me in rolling up our sleeves and going to work.

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Our measure of effective state government is whether our citizens are served well and at the lowest possible cost.

The people of Tennessee are our customers and we will be all about great customer service. In business our goal was to make sure that every employee was either taking care of a customer or taking care of someone who was taking care of a customer.

As Mayor of Knoxville, our goal was to listen, to lead, to be open and transparent and to get things done. State government will do no less.

Years ago, my father instilled in his children a sense of being unable to sit back, look at a problem and not do anything. He taught us that life does not revolve around our own world, as comfortable as that might be. You have to be willing to reach out, take a risk, and understand that the reward for a job well done comes from knowing you have played your part with the gifts God has given you so you are part of something bigger than yourself.

You start with the presumption of saying yes to making a difference and then you see what you can do to help.

That is the measure of leadership.

Leadership shapes reality – it's how education reform grasps the knowledge reins for the future or how, with a gentle nudge, people reach the next rung on the ladder even when it is a stretch to grab hold.

Let me be very clear. Fiscal challenges and difficult options will characterize our time and leadership. We have to be willing to press ahead because you feel it is the right step – not necessarily the most popular – in setting the course for the future of all Tennesseans.

Leaders listen, draw on the experience of others and their own life experiences and values, and lay out a path that embraces the hopes, dreams and aspirations for all.

We are at a new day in government in our country and our state. This is not a reference to Republicans winning elections that Democrats won two or four years earlier.

Today, reality is a landscape created from fewer financial resources but one that still provides for the common good.

There are opportunities before us. We cannot do or be everything. We have to exercise good judgment as we set our priorities.

The path we will travel will not be smooth and there will be a few bumps along the way.

But we will successfully navigate – learning new ideas and building on existing experiences.

This sense of hope and optimism comes from the knowledge that guiding principles serve as anchors in times of challenge. They empower us to do more and help us seek simplicity in moments of uncertainty and confusion.

## **SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2011 -- 5TH ORGANIZATIONAL DAY**

As your governor, I promise to be a good listener and a continuous learner, to lead with grace and humility, and when faced with adversity, to respond with determination. And finally, I will work hard. In business, as a mayor, and as a candidate for governor, I have learned nothing replaces hard work.

After over two years of preparing to be here, I am ready and excited to get to work.

I hope you will join me along the path we start blazing today that will shape the future for Tennessee.

Thank you for your support, your encouragement, your prayers and your commitment to making Tennessee a better place to live, to work, and to raise a family.

### **OATH OF OFFICE OF CABINET**

Governor Haslam introduced his Cabinet appointees and administered the Oath of Office.

### **BENEDICTION**

Mr. President Ramsey introduced Reverend Ralph White from the Bloomfield Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee, who gave the Benediction.

### **MR. PRESIDENT RAMSEY RELINQUISHES THE GAVEL**

Mr. President Ramsey relinquished the gavel to Madam President Harwell, as President of the Joint Convention.

### **DISSOLUTION OF JOINT CONVENTION**

Madam President Harwell declared, pursuant to **Senate Joint Resolution No. 17**, the purpose for which the Joint Convention was assembled having been accomplished, the Joint Convention stood dissolved.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Senate was called to order by Mr. Speaker Ramsey.

### **ROLL CALL**

The Speaker declared that a quorum was present.

On motion, the roll call was dispensed with.

### **MOTION**

On motion of Senators Tate, Ford, Kelsey, Kyle, Marrero, Norris, Barnes, Beavers, Bell, Berke, Burks, Campfield, Crowe, Faulk, Finney, Gresham, Haile, Harper, Haynes, Henry, Herron, Johnson, Ketron, McNally, Overbey, Southerland, Stewart, Summerville, Tracy, Watson, Woodson, Yager and Mr. Speaker Ramsey, their names were added as sponsors of **House Joint Resolution No. 13**.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2011 -- 5TH ORGANIZATIONAL DAY**

**MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE**

January 15, 2011

MR. SPEAKER: I am directed to transmit to the Senate, House Joint Resolutions Nos. 6 and 7, adopted, for the Senate's action.

JOE MCCORD,  
Chief Clerk.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Senator Norris moved that pursuant to **Senate Joint Resolution No. 17**, the Organizational Session of the One Hundred Seventh General Assembly stand adjourned sine die, which motion prevailed.